

Mr. Chairman, this completes my statement.

Mr. JONES. At this point I will place in the record statements by the Honorable William M. Colmer and the Honorable G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery in behalf of the Tallahala Reservoir.
(The statements follow:)

STATEMENT OF CONGRESSMAN WILLIAM M. COLMER OF MISSISSIPPI IN SUPPORT OF FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT FOR PASCAGOULA RIVER, TALLAHALA CREEK, MISS.

Mr. Chairman, I greatly appreciate this opportunity to support the Tallahala Reservoir in Mississippi.

As you know, this is an accelerated project of the Pascagoula River Basin Study. Critical flood problems exist along the Tallahala Creek; there has been a drastic decline in water levels affecting municipal and industrial water supply needs for the present and the future; gross pollution exists below the City of Laurel in Jones County and a need for recreation in the area is present.

When constructed, this multi-purpose project would provide for flood control, water supply, water quality control, general recreation and fish and wildlife enhancement as needed. The total cost of the project is stated as \$16,360,000 and the benefit-cost ratio is a most favorable 2.9:1.

The citizens of the City of Laurel, the surrounding towns and cities and the sponsoring agency, the Pat Harrison Waterway District, are most interested in the Development of this project, as I am. I ask for your careful consideration and inclusion of this most worthy and needed project in the proposed Omnibus Rivers and Harbors and Flood Control Bill.

Thank you.

STATEMENT OF HON. G. V. "SONNY" MONTGOMERY, MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Mr. Chairman, and Members of the Subcommittee, I appreciate the opportunity of submitting this statement in behalf of the Tallahala Reservoir in Mississippi.

The Tallahala Creek rises in north central Jasper County and drains an area of 649 square miles, which includes parts of Jasper, Jones, Forrest and Perry Counties.

There is an immediate need for flood protection in this area due to damage to both urban and rural development. Urban damages result from inundation of homes, businesses and transportation systems. Flood damages in the rural areas result from inundation of crops, farm property other than crops, wooded land and transportation systems.

Flood regulation by the Tallahala Reservoir project would protect the urban area at Laurel and provide a varying degree of flood protection to the highly productive agricultural land in the flood plain below the dam. Flood control would permit increased productivity and growth to meet expanding needs and would reduce threats to life and public health.

There has also been a drastic decline in water levels affecting the municipal and industrial water supply needs for the area. This project would help alleviate these problems as well as provide recreation and fishing opportunities which are needed for the surrounding area.

The total cost of the Tallahala Creek Project is estimated at \$16,360,000 and it has a highly desirable benefit-cost ratio of 2.9:1.

I would sincerely appreciate your granting favorable consideration to this project and including it in the proposed Omnibus Rivers and Harbors and Flood Control Bill.

Mr. JONES. Any questions?

Next we will have Lt. Col. Ferd E. Anderson, Jr., Assistant Director of Civil Works for Central Divisions.

Colonel Anderson, it is always good to have you before us.

Colonel ANDERSON. Thank you, sir.